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Commission for Social Development
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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

"*The Economic and Social Council*,

"*Recalling* the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world', held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

"*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[1] the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002,[2] General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

"*Welcoming* the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, held in Ouagadougou from 3 to 9 September 2004,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[2] See General Assembly resolution 57/2.

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"*Recognizing* the commitments made in meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,[3]

"*Remaining concerned* that Africa is the only continent currently not on track to achieve by 2015 any of the goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa,

"*Recognizing* that promoting capacity-building is a major constraint on the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[4] and the need for continued support from the international community,

"*Bearing in mind* that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized and that their development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[5]

"1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[4] to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

"2. *Also welcomes* the good progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the completion of the peer review process in some countries, the progress in implementing the recommendations of those reviews in some countries and the completion of the self-assessment process, the hosting of country support missions and the launching of the national preparatory process for the peer review in others, and urges African States that have not yet done so, to join the peer review, as a matter of priority, and to strengthen the peer review process to ensure its efficient performance;

"3. *Further welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;

"4. *Emphasizes* that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encourages African countries, with the

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[3] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[4] A/57/304, annex.

[5] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

assistance of their development partners, to increase their support to enhancing the capacities of these institutions;

"5. *Also emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship;

"6. *Further emphasizes* that the rising poverty levels and social exclusion faced by most African countries require significant changes in the development of social policy and the need for comprehensive social policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development, to ensure employment creation and decent work for all, and to enhance social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, so as to achieve Africa's social and economic objectives;

"7. *Recognizes* that while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;

"8. *Also recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, and in this regard welcomes the convening of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation on 4 and 5 November 2006 and the Africa-South America Summit, held in Abuja on 30 November and 1 December 2006, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through triangular cooperation;

"9. *Welcomes* the various important initiatives of Africa's development partners in recent years, including those of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Africa Action Plan of the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, including the Africa-Asia Business Forum, the report of the Commission for Africa entitled *Our Common Interest* and the Africa Partnership Forum, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa;

"10. *Urges* continuous support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance, increased foreign direct investment and the transfer of technology;

"11. *Welcomes* the recent increase in official development assistance pledged by many of the development partners, including the commitments of the Group of Eight and the European Union, which will lead to an increase in official development assistance to Africa of 25 billion dollars per year by 2010, and encourages all development partners to ensure aid effectiveness through the implementation of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness:

Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Results and Mutual Accountability of 2005;[6]

"12. *Recognizes* the need for national Governments and the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries;

"13. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to align their financial and technical support to Africa more closely with the priorities of the New Partnership, as reflected in national poverty reduction strategies or in similar strategies, and encourages development partners to increase their efforts in this regard;

"14. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

"15. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters;

"16. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the African Union and the New Partnership Secretariat and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership;

"17. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives, based on their national development priorities and strategies, to enable them to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this respect, acknowledges recent commitments by some donor countries;

"18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take measures to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, and requests the Office to collaborate with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and to include the social dimensions of the New Partnership in its comprehensive reports to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

"19. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to discuss, in its annual programme of work, regional programmes to promote social development so as to enable all regions of the United Nations system to share experiences and best practices, with the concurrence of concerned countries;

"20. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development during its forty-seventh session;

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[6] Available at http://www1.worldbank.org/harmonization/PARIS/FINALPARISDECLARATION.pdf.

"21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, to be tabled during the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser for Africa, while also taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 62/179 of 19 December 2007, entitled 'New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support'."